

Southern Flyer



908th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command), Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala., Vol. 40, Issue 5, May 2003

Construction, upgrades aid mission accomplishment

By Senior Master Sgt. Donald Fenn, 908th Civil Engineering Squadron operations superintendent

As the 908th Airlift Wing marches steadfastly into the future it becomes more and more essential that we upgrade and/or replace our facilities to meet expanding mission needs.

Many of the buildings we currently work in are aging, difficult to maintain and no longer compatible with today's operations. We are aggressively pursuing plans to replace many of our major facilities and upgrade our infrastructure.

These Military Construction projects, when executed, will replace our Operations Group, Airlift Squadron and Aerial Port facilities and also two more Logistics and Maintenance facilities. Additionally, we have plans to build a new C-130 Parking Ramp along the current Taxiway A.

Completing this evolution will result in the relocation of all direct aircraft support activities to the North, resulting in increased operational efficiency. Moreover, this facility evolution will also place the 908th members supporting those operations in up-to-date, sound facilities, vastly improving working conditions as well as capabilities.

Finally, as we continue to complete these new buildings we also continue to return much-needed real estate to Air University to

facilitate their growing academic missions.

We've been extremely fortunate in the last couple of years in terms of opportunities to execute some of those critical MILCON projects as well as to upgrade our existing facilities. We're well into construction on a project to build a new Fuel Cell Maintenance Facility and a new Isochronal Maintenance Hangar. Estimated value of this project exceeds \$12 million. Additionally, this year alone we've received more than \$1.5 million in Operations and Maintenance or minor construction funds to do various projects from replacing wall covering and carpets in Building 1055, to refurbishing the parking areas around Bldg. 1056, to designing an upgrade to the heating and air conditioning systems at our Composite Maintenance Facility, Bldg. 1456.

We are just finishing a project to upgrade lighting on our West Parking Ramp to increase safety and enhance resource protection for our C-130 fleet. We were also fortunate to get Force Protection Program funds this year to upgrade the fencing around our flightline areas.

Most significantly, this month we begin a yearlong, \$1 million project to add needed space to Bldg. 1052 and completely renovate Bldg. 1050. This will benefit our Operations Group and flying

Top right, last pole goes up completing the West Parking Ramp lighting upgrade project. Lower right, work continues at the site of the new Isochronal Maintenance Hangar.

squadron in the near term and provide flexibility to evolve future missions into those facilities in the long term, when the new Operations facilities come on line.

Future projects in the O&M Program include an addition and complete renovation for Bldg. 1016, execution of the upgrade to mechanical systems in Bldg. 1456, construction of additional office and storage space in Bldg. 845 and foundation repairs with hangar door renovations for Bldgs. 845 and 846, to name a few.

As stated previously, we have been and we continue to be very fortunate. We have an outstanding relationship with our host base agencies and we rely on the folks from Civil Engineering and Contracting to help us design and execute this work when money becomes available.

Likewise we have a history of excellent support from senior leadership here at Maxwell, our community leaders in the Montgomery area and our elected officials and their staffs. With an aggressive Facility Program and continued support we can look forward to consistent improvement and evolution in our facilities long into the future.



Photos by Maj. Jerry Lobb



Let's have fun, pray our forces return safely



By Col. James Stewart
908th Airlift Wing commander

Once again it's time to step back from the "hustle and bustle" of the UTA weekend and take a moment to recognize those

important people in our lives that constantly support us - our families! Family Day will take place on Saturday, May 3rd, during our May UTA. I hope all of you are planning to bring your families out to see the 908th and to enjoy yourselves.

We all spend a lot of time away from our family members due to our service in the Reserves. Family Day is a time when the wing recognizes the important contribution your family makes to the accomplishment of our mission. Without their support, each one of you would not be able to share the many talents you have with our organization.

Thus, Family Day is our way of showing your family members how much we appreciate their support. It's also a great time to show them what we do, with tours of a static airplane, and an opportunity for them to visit your offices/work locations. But most importantly, it is a time for us to relax and enjoy each other's company as the greater wing family. Again, I hope y'all come out to enjoy the day.

One final note..... since our last UTA, Operation Iraqi Freedom has rapidly uncoiled, and in less than a month coalition forces have taken control of Iraq. I hope you will join me in

taking a moment to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their families, friends, and country to free the people of Iraq. Thanks to the professionalism and training of our brothers/sisters in arms, the numbers of those that died were smaller than most thought possible. The future looks brighter now for the people of Iraq, and for our fellow warriors who look forward to coming home soon to their families. Keep all of our deployed warriors in your thoughts and prayers.

Looking forward to seeing y'all Saturday. Lets have a fun and safe UTA!

A note about Mother's Day

By Chaplain (1st Lt.) Brian Harrison
908th Airlift Wing

The month of May represents a very special time of the year for most Americans. It is when we pay tribute to our mothers, all of them.



Some of us have had many mothers; grandmothers, godmothers, birth mothers, surrogate mothers and mothers-in-law. Then there are all kinds of moms; real moms, play moms, soccer moms, and neighborhood moms.

We call them by many different names such as mother, mom, momma, big momma, and my favorite "mommy."

Can you believe it, some folks even call their mothers by their first name?

Well, regardless of what you call them, **do call** them! Call and remind them of how much you love them and appreciate their efforts in rearing or caring for you. Let them know how much they mean to you.

May is also a painful time for many of us who have already buried our mothers. I say to you that you should also continue to honor you mothers. Reunite with family members or friends and celebrate the good times you had with your mothers. For those of you who are estranged from your mothers, restore those

relationships by forgiving past and current wrongs and begin to forge a new relationship. My relationship with my mom has been strained at times, but I'm putting those difficulties aside and building a new relationship, so should you.

Finally, for those of you who earnestly desire to be mothers, we pray God delivers your miracle. Everyday is mother's day, but May 11, we especially honor our mothers and say "Happy Mothers Day." May God continue to bless our mothers, all of them!

Maxwell/Gunter leader retires

Maxwell AFB Honor Guard members furl the flag symbolizing the end of a 38-year career for Maj. Gen. A. Bowen Ballard (far right). Ballard, the senior area reservist, most recently served as the mobilization assistant to the Air University commander. The Montgomery native is a prominent local civic leader and businessman, serving as CEO of a realty company, owner of a mortgage firm and chairman of the board of directors for a bank. Commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air National Guard in 1966, he went on to serve in a variety of assignments, making his mark in the intelligence field where he rose to assistant chief of staff, USAF Intelligence Headquarters. AF Space Command commander Gen. Lance Lord (left), one of Ballard's former bosses at AU, presided over the April 15 retirement ceremony.



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Editorial policy

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All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

We solicit articles, drawings and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to "Southern Flyer" editorial policies.

Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the UTA. The submission deadline for articles or information is the Wednesday two weeks prior to the UTA.

For information about this schedule, call Jeff Melvin at (334) 953-7874.

Play ball -- wing, Air Force Academy support Florida Marlins' opener

A C-130 and 10 members of the 908th Airlift Wing helped the Florida Marlins kick off their 2003 professional baseball season, March 31. The aircraft and crew provided a jump platform for the Air Force Academy's "Wings of Blue" parachute demonstration team.

The Wings of Blue jumped in as a part of opening day ceremonies prior to the game between the Marlins and Philadelphia Phillies. The Air Force Recruiting Service and U.S. Southern Command organized the parachute demonstration.

The crew and Wings of Blue performed a practice jump into ProPlayer Stadium in Miami the day before. In addition to housing the Marlins, the stadium also serves as the home of the Dolphins professional football team. A



Photos by Maj. Jerry Lobb

Cadet JR Gibbens renders a salute as he exits the aircraft

cameraman for Fox Sports Network was on board the aircraft to record the jump. The video of the team jumping was used during the broadcast on Monday and was also shown on the large display screens inside the stadium. The people in the stands may have thought they were watching the para-

chutists exit the aircraft live.

Maj. Gary "Go-Go" Gomez, who was aircraft commander for the trip, said, "It's always great to participate in these kinds of things. It was a wonderful opportunity to represent the military, particularly at a time when we have people overseas."



The event had a decidedly Air Force flavor. Tech. Sgt. "Ricky" waves to the crowd.

Keep safety foremost during this critical period



By Lt. Col. Richard Gilchrist
908th Airlift Wing Chief of Safety

Summer is just around the corner — all those hot weather things such as thunderstorms, high humidity, insects, snakes, poison ivy, etc. We call this crucial period the "101 Critical Days of Summer." This period begins the Friday before Memorial Day and ends after Labor

Day. It's the most accident prone time of the year.

Most of us will be traveling, vacationing, playing more sports and other outdoor activities including boating and fishing a lot more than we usually do. Add to this thoughts of the current world situation and we have good reason to be distracted. It's good for our physical fitness program but let's not forget the flip side of this equation — traditionally, we suffer more injuries and fatalities during this period. We must be more aware of safety and focus on the smart way to do things while having fun.

Enjoy the summer

— do things with your family and children while they are out of school, spend time engaging in leisure activities with friends, but make a habit of thinking about what you are doing and consider the risks of the activity involved. Assess your abilities. Am I up to the task? If it's something you haven't done in awhile think about what can go wrong or cause someone to get hurt. Weigh the risks of play and leisure just as you do at work. Don't over do it.

No matter what type of sports or activities you or your family may be participating in this summer, always keep an eye out for potential safety

hazards. It may save your life.

We all know driving and drinking don't mix, in a car or a boat. Be aware of other safety tips such as buckling up, wearing a helmet, using the buddy system when participating in water activities, driving defensively, stopping periodically during long drives to stay alert — you know the drill. Be here next September to share your experiences with friends and co-workers. Have a fun and enjoyable summer but most of all have a safe one. We all realize how important it is to take a break from the pressures of not only work but the stress that comes with day-

to-day living as well.

So, again, be safe, be smart, have fun — enjoy your summer activities, take a break from the pressures of work and everyday life but most of all, be responsible.

A final note. While historically we tend to concentrate on off-duty pursuits during this period, it's equally important to keep focused on safety during regular work hours, UTAs, and annual tour deploy-

ments with all the added thoughts of the war in Iraq. Always be safety conscious and watch out for the unexpected. Have a great summer but remember — safety is no accident.

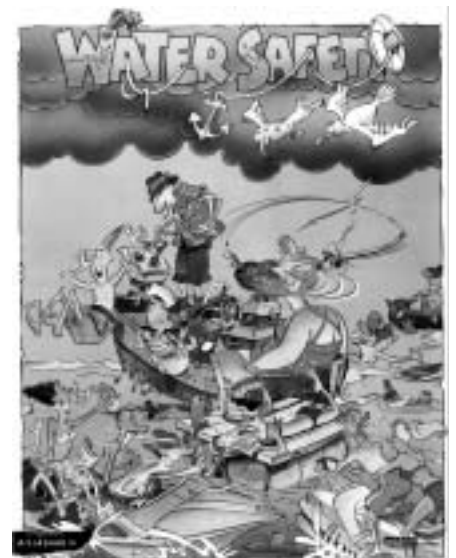
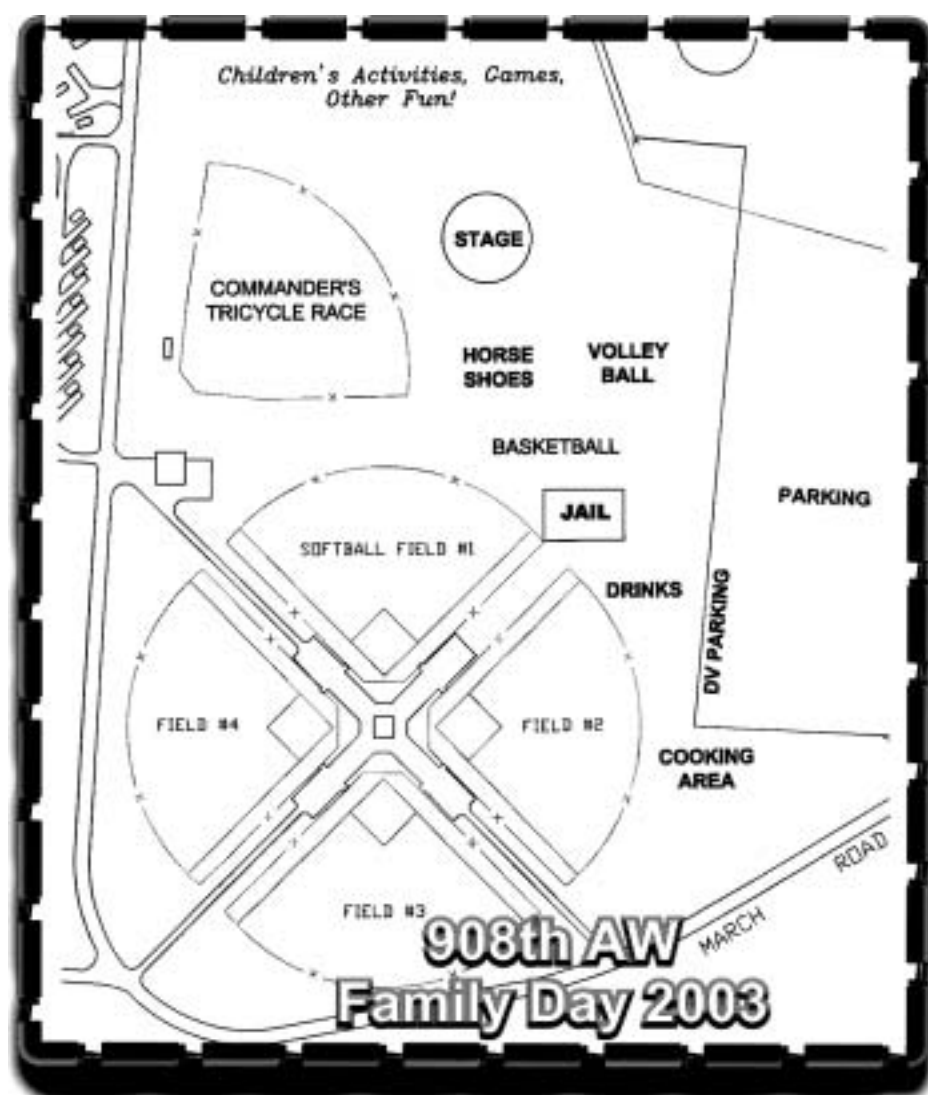




Photo by Jeff Melvin
Cam Pearson, son of 908ASTS member Senior Airman Rosalyn Hurst, enjoys one of the kids' activities at last year's Family Day

Fun is order of the day

Come to Maxwell May 3 and enjoy the festivities at Family Day 2003. The event features children's activities, softball games, refreshments, lunch and the commander's tricycle race. Family Day starts at 10, lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and sign out is with each unit.



Commander's Tricycle Race Rules

(POC: 908 AES)

1. The racer's will be required to start at the starting line, then cross the finish line in order to complete the race.
2. All racer's must complete the race.
3. All Tricycle's must have three wheels, and all three wheels must remain on the ground during the race.
4. All racer's must wear safety headgear. (Creativity Encouraged)
5. The first vehicle to cross the finish line will be declared the winner.

Family Day softball schedule

Game	Teams	Time	Field
A	25APS vs. ASTS	10:30	1
B	LRS vs. CES	10:30	2
C	908AES&SFS vs. 357AS	10:30	3
D	908AES vs. MXS	10:30	4
Semifinal 1	Winner Game 'A' vs. 'B'	11:30	1
Semifinal 2	Winner Game 'C' vs. 'D'	11:30	2
Consolation	Semifinal losers*** ***Optional	12:30	1
Final	Semifinal winners	1:30	1

Softball need-to-know info

Single-elimination tournament - roster must be submitted to Rick Fanning at umpire/team captain meeting (10:15 @ Ball Fields) - no switching once committed **IF YOU SLIDE YOU WILL BE OUT!** No sliding rule in effect. (re: 2001 Line of Duty list). **No metal cleats.**

Two Umpires are required; 1 at home plate and 1 at first base. Every squadron should provide two umpires. Ideally no one ump's their squadron.

50-minute time limit. If game is not over, will finish the inning, team in the lead wins. If tied, play until tie is broken.

Seven innings per game. Foul ball on the 3rd strike is an out. (If time is a factor MAY start each batter out with 1 ball and 1 strike to speed up the game.)

ALL PLAYS AT HOME PLATE

ARE FORCE PLAYS. The defensive player may touch the plate or the runner to record the out.

In Field Fly Rule - In the event of a fly ball that should be caught by an infielder, with less than two (2) outs and runners on first and second, or first, second and third, the batter shall automatically be called out. If the infielder drops the ball, the runners proceed at their own risk. There is no force play because the batter is out regardless of whether the ball is caught.

Mercy Rule - if down by 15 after 4 innings OR if down by 10 after 5 innings game over, otherwise play till completion.



Congress shows increased interest in reserve issues

WASHINGTON — Congress has increased its focus on helping the reserve components since more than 200,000 members of the National Guard and Reserve have been mobilized for the war on terrorism.

With newly introduced bills to enhance reservists' benefits, along with the existing House Guard and Reserve Caucus and newly formed Senate Reserve Cau-

cus, reserve issues have come to the forefront in Congress.

To enhance congressional efforts, Air Force Reserve Command has streamlined its process to provide timely, accurate and consistent information by offering reservists numerous pathways to surface issues and ideas.

Besides submitting initiatives through their chain of command, reservists can propose ideas

through the Air Force Reserve Advisory Board and the Office of Air Force Reserve's Policy Integration Directorate in the Pentagon.

The AFRAB accepts any issue or initiative, from addressing existing situations to considering the most creative idea, allowing each reservist to be a catalyst to change.

The policy integration directorate, which goes by the

designation REI, deals with all legislative issues for the command at the Air Staff level. The directorate recently expanded AFRC's Congressional Outreach program, which ensures congressional members are aware of the Air Force Reserve and its significant contributions.

REI staffers set up visits for AFRC Commander Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III and wing command-

ers with their congressional members, provide informative briefings to professional and personal staffs of congressional members and their committees, and answer questions posed by U.S. senators and representatives.

"All reservists should be aware that their voice matters because congressional members are

interested in what their constituents have to say," said Wayne Gracie, director of REI. "Our goal is to facilitate communication between Air Force reservists and Congress. We have a great story to tell."

More information about REI is available on its Web site at <http://www.rei.af.mil/rei>. (AFRC News Service)

No lights, no problem

Aeromedical personnel join aircrews in learning to operate at night

By Tech. Sgt. James L. Harrell Jr.
908th SFS Public Affairs Rep

During a recent incident in Afghanistan, ground support personnel were literally left out in the dark when incoming fire forced airfield lighting to be shut down.

To avoid giving the enemy the ability to target aircraft and base facilities at night, normal flightline illuminations are extinguished. Ramp operations critical to flight missions such as fueling, maintenance, and patient loading are seriously affected by black out. With only a small number of specialties such as aircrews and security forces possessing night observation capability, the need for other personnel to acquire these devices is becoming more urgent. Tactical commanders expect operations to run day and night, in all weather, to include tactical situations as well.

In April the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron began examining using night vision devices in its operations. Night vision devices could further enhance AE personnel's abilities to accomplish tasks that don't end because the lights go dim.

"The NVG training has recently been identified as a training and certification requirement for deployed aeromedical evacuation forces in forward locations. At this time, it's not yet been determined that NVG equipment will be used for crewmembers in flight, but aeromedical ground operations involving the preparation and configuration of aircraft designated for aeromedical evacuation missions, patient enplaning and deplaning operations, and all ancillary/support operations sustaining the AE mission will potentially require the use

of NVG equipment," said Maj. Mike Dankosky, health services administrator, 908th AES.

This determination, Dankosky said, follows the use of NVG equipment in current operations in the Afghanistan theater, where AE personnel received training on the equipment only after arriving in-theater.

AES didn't have to look far for training help. The 908th Security Forces Squadron stepped forward to provide aeromedical evacuation personnel hands-on training using night vision goggles. The PVS-7 Night Vision Goggles are the primary tool for low light observation for ground personnel. Different from the ones used by aircrew, the goggles have a single tube instead of two. Their lightweight and simple design allow users to operate for prolonged periods at night with just starlight or moonlight available.

Security Forces drew upon their expertise in using night vision devices, to instruct AE personnel on night observation, NVG reading, tactical situations, and the dos and don'ts of night vision use. NVGs can be used like binoculars, worn on a special head harness, or on a helmet harness that allows the user to flip up the device when not needed.

With all the promise and enhancements that night vision devices can offer, personnel were also told about the drawbacks and the importance of not forgetting normal eyesight.

The goggles can

cause eyestrain after prolonged uses. Users should switch out after 30 minutes of use. Normal human vision is impressive in that the eyes can go from a normal lighted area to darkness, and the eyes will improve by a factor of 10,000 after 10 to 20 minutes.

Now that unit pilots can fly at night using their night vision devices, it can be expected that their ground support personnel will follow suit to keep the mission going, day and night. Thanks to Security Forces, 908th AES personnel have gotten a head start.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. James Harrell Jr.
Flight nurse Maj. Susan Cheatwood helps aeromedical evacuation technician Tech. Sgt. Ronnie Patterson try on a pair of PVS-7B night vision goggles.

Get One

Tell a friend -- best recruiters are unit members

Tell your friends, family and co-workers about the challenge and excitement that go with serving in the Air Force Reserve. Share your pride and commitment with them. Then submit their names.

Once you submit your referral information, we'll send you an award just for participating. Soon thereafter, your referral will receive a phone call from one of our Air Force Reserve recruiters.

If one of your referrals joins the Air Force Reserve, you'll get a special award and recognition. The more enlistments that you give us, the more you get in return.

All reservists are eligible to participate, with the exception of Air Force Reserve Command recruiters. There is no limit to the number of referrals submitted. A referral must result in an enlistment within 24 months to qualify for an enlistment award.

More information is available online at www.afreserve.com.getone.

Chances are you know someone who wants to serve in the 908th Airlift Wing. Our local recruiters can answer all your questions about Reserve eligibility and more.

Complete the form on the right and give to one of the wing's recruiters to refer someone and to register for a prize in the Get One program. You can also refer someone by calling (877) 786-2372 tollfree, or you can enter your referral's information at www.afreserve.com.getone

908AW recruiters

Senior Master Sgt. Lane Whitlow, Maxwell senior recruiter, (334) 953-6737/5212; **Master Sgt. Tammi Langhorne**, Maxwell in service recruiter, (334) 953-7997; **Master Sgt. Angela Edwards**, Columbus, Ga. recruiter, (706) 562-9991; **Tech. Sgt. Ken Blocker**, Montgomery recruiter, (334) 395-5456; **Tech. Sgt. Robert Vazquez**, Dothan recruiter, (334) 671-2612; **Tech. Sgt. William Rule**, Birmingham recruiter, (205) 591-8581; **Staff Sgt. Tommy Vitone**, Huntsville recruiter, (256) 722-0558

ALL SHADED FIELDS MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM

REFERRAL INFORMATION

Name: Last [shaded] First [shaded] M [shaded]
 Home Address: [shaded]
 City: [shaded] State: [shaded] Zip: [shaded]
 Email: [shaded]
 Phone: [shaded] - [shaded] - [shaded]

RESERVIST INFORMATION

Name: Last [shaded] First [shaded] M [shaded]
 Home Address: [shaded]
 City: [shaded] State: [shaded] Zip: [shaded]
 Date of Birth: [shaded] / [shaded] / [shaded] Wing # [shaded] Rank [shaded]
 example 05 / MAR / 71 example 908 example TSGT
 Phone: [shaded] - [shaded] - [shaded] Check here if this is a new address ☐

GET ONE

Are you already registered in the program?
☐ yes ☐ no
 (check one)
 All shaded fields still need to be filled out.

AIR FORCE RESERVE
 ABOVE & BEYOND

Tricare changes help reservists, families

WASHINGTON -- Families of reservists mobilized for more than 30 consecutive days may now opt for the military's best form of health-care insurance. In a pending change, families who live with their military sponsors at the time of their mobilization will be eligible for Tricare Prime Remote when the mobilized reservists deploy outside the area.

Previously, reservists had to be placed on military orders for 179 days or more for their families to get Tricare Prime, the most advanced form and lowest cost health-care insurance, which includes preventive health care, no deductibles, no enrollment fees and no cost-shares.

AFRC banks on split training option to boost recruiting

By 2nd Lt. Lance Patterson
Air Force Reserve Command
Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Starting in mid-April, new recruits in Air Force Reserve Command will be able to complete basic military training and drill with their unit for months before beginning technical school training.

In some cases, non-prior service applicants have had to decide on being on hold for basic training and technical training for a long, extended period or opting to look elsewhere for a possible military career.

With the Split Training Option, Air Force Reserve re-

cruiters, at the discretion of wing commanders, may offer an STO to people who have never been in the military. The option will allow military newcomers to attend basic training and become familiar with their unit before going to technical training at a later date.

"Our recruiters have been doing a tremendous job with non-prior accessions, and that is no easy task in today's competitive climate," said Col. Larry C. Lee, chief of the training and professional development division at Headquarters AFRC. "It's been difficult when an applicant is very interested in

going into a particular career field, and we don't have a formal school available in the immediate future or we cannot match basic military training dates with immediate, follow-on technical training dates."

If technical school dates are available immediately after basic military training, airmen will not qualify for the option, according to Lt. Col. Scott A. Ostrow, chief of recruiting operations at Headquarters AFRC. However, if no tech school dates are available, airmen will qualify for the STO with the wing commander's approval.

"In the past, we

have relied on a large portion of the Reserve coming from a much larger active force, but that's just not the case anymore," Ostrow said. "Now, we're turning our focus to non-prior service individuals and having to change how we do business to get the people we need."

Other services have recognized the shrinking pool of potential prior-service applicants and have been offering STOs to attract non-prior service people, according to Lee. The Air National Guard has had the option for the past four years, and the Army National Guard has

had the STO in place since 1978.

"We see the STO as a permanent program but hope to see a continued improvement in forecasting training needs and filling classes, hence minimizing the need for STO," Lee said. "The days of expendable quotas are behind us. If we fall behind in matching people with available school dates, we will more than likely not receive the amount of quotas we have in the past. We believe the STO will aid immeasurably in getting people into the Air Force Reserve and trained to do the mission." (AFRC News Service)

May Unit Training Assembly Schedule

Time	Time	Event	Location/OPR
Friday, May 2, 2003			
1630	1900	Commanders' Staff Meeting	Bldg. 1056/CC Conference Room

Saturday, May 3, 2003

0730	0800	Sign In	Orderly Room
0730	0800	Newcomers' Flight Reception	Bldg. 1056/Rm 101/DPMT
0800	0830	Newcomers' Intro/Orientation	Bldg. 1056/Rm 101/DPMT
0830	1100	M-41 Mask Fit	Bldg. 1055/Rm 1
1000	TBD	Family Day	Maxwell AFB Midway
1700	TBD	Sign Out	Orderly Room

Sunday, May 4, 2003

0630	0700	Sign in	Orderly Room
0815	0900	Personnel In-House Training	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Room
0800	1400	NBC Defense Training	Bldg. 1154/Rm 119
0800	1100	Gas Mask/A1 Bag Issue	Bldg. 848/West Side
0800	1130	SFS at Range M-16 (Classroom)	Firing Range/SFS/Combat Arms
0830	1130	Pallet Build-up/Joint Inspection	25 APS (Various locations)
0800	1100	Lab Work/DNA/HIV/Blood Testing	Bldg. 760/Lab
0900	1030	Physicals	Bldg. 760/1st Floor
0830	1130	Shots (Yellow Fever canx)	Bldg. 760/1st Floor
0830	0900	Pregnancy Profiles/Weight Waivers/ Fitness For Duty (Must have DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Rm
0830	1030	Anthrax Briefing (30-minute Brief)	Bldg. 760/1st Floor
0900	0930	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 846/Classroom 2/25 APS
1000	1030	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 848/Classroom/COM Flight
1000	1100	Career Advisors' Meeting	Bldg. 846/DPMSC
1000	1100	Weight Mgt Monitors' Mtg	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Room
1130	1230	Chiefs' Group Meeting	Bldg. 1461
1100	1130	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 1056/Rm. 101/DPMT
1130	1230	SORTS/Commander Meeting	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Room/CC
0200	1500	Gas Mask/A1 Bag Issue	Bldg. 848/West Sid
1230	1530	Units at Range M-16 (Firing)	Firing Range/SFS/Combat Arms
1230	1530	CDC Testing	Bldg. 903/DPMT Classroom
1300	1400	Honor Guard Meeting	Bldg. 1056/Cmd. Chief's Office
1330	1400	Fitness For Duty (Must have DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Rm
1330	1430	UTA Bulletin Meeting	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf. Room
1430	1500	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 1055/Classroom 2/CES
1600	TBD	Sign-out	Orderly Room

Support functions' schedule

Activity	Dates & hours of operation		Location/Ext.
MPF Customer Service	Sat, 0800-1200	Sun, 0900-1000	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
		Sun, 1200-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
ID Cards	M-F, 0630-1630 Sat, 0800-1200	Sun, 0800-1100	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
		Sun, 1200-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
Reserve Pay	M-F, 0700-1100; 1200-1600	Sat, 0800-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-6722
Individual Equipment	Sat, 0800-1530		Bldg. 1154/3-6020
Clothing Sales	Sat, 0900-1500		Bldg. 851/3-7505
Restricted Area Badges	M-F, 0630-1600	Sun, 1200-1500	Bldg. 84/3-4283
Vehicle Registration	M-F, 0730-1600	Sun, 1200-1500	Bldg. 84/3-4283
Geneva Convention Cards	M-F, 0730-1600	Sun, 1200-1500	Bldg. 84/3-4283
Dining Hall	Sat, 0600-0930	Sun, 0600-0930	Bldg. 668/3-5127
	1100-1300	1100-1300	
	1600-1830	1600-1830	
Lodging office/reservations (lodging problems, contact 908th rep via lodging front desk)			Bldg. 1573/3-2401
Photo lab	M-F, 0730-1630	Sun, 1300-1500	Bldg. 926/3-7981

FY 03 Unit Training Assembly Dates

June 7-8; July 12-13; Aug. 9-10; Sept. 6-7

Volunteers to conduct safety seat checks at Family Day

Child passenger safety inspections will be conducted May 3 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot near Family Day activities. Certified passenger safety technicians and volunteers will conduct the inspections and show how to correctly install the seats, said Senior Airman David McCaughtry, 908th Security Forces Squadron. Additionally, technicians will try to educating parents about child passenger safety,

answer questions about CPS and double check the child restraint current recall list for seats recalled by manufacturers, McCaughtry said. All equipment needed for installations will be on hand and new seats will available from Tuscaloosa Safe Kids at cost. The Alabama Safe Kids Van will be available with Safe Kids banners and literature.

May UTA Lodging

To access the Lodging Reservation System, please follow these instructions:

- * Make reservations, cancellations or changes at least 24 hours prior to arrival.
- * Call Maxwell at 1-800-673-9356
- * Input your unit's authorization code
- * Dial the system at 3-8557 or 3-8558
- * The system will ask for your SSAN, which you will input with the telephone keypad
- * The system will ask for your personal ID number, followed by the "#" sign. (PIN is available through your First Sergeant or Services 3-7332)
- * The system will ask if you would like to make, change, or cancel a reservation.
- * To make a reservation, input arrival date and then departure date.
- * You will be asked if the reservation is ADT, IDT, or both (ADT: Annual Tour, Mandays, Special Tour) (IDT: UTA, AFTP, RMP, Make-up UTA)
- * If this is a scheduled UTA weekend, the system will tell you where you will be staying
- * If you cancel or change a reservation, you will be prompted for a phone number.
- * **The confirmation number you receive is for 908th Services use only.**

Note: You can also call the system direct DSN or Commercial. The numbers are: DSN 493-8557/8558 or COMM: (334) 953-8557/8558.

If you have a question please contact Master Sgt. Byron Godwin at:

Commercial: (334) 953-7332
DSN: 493-7332
E-mail: byron.godwin@maxwell.af.mil
Emergency cell: (334) 657-1304

Notice! Checkout time at Maxwell Lodging for the May UTA is 0800 Sunday. If you do not have time to go to the front desk, and do not have a phone charge, there will be a key drop box located in Bldg. 157 (Main Lodging) for your convenience. Please do not use this box if you have any charges on your bill. In accordance with AFI 34-246 **smoking is not permitted in lodging rooms.** You may be charged a minimum of \$50 for cleaning for violating this AFI.

Airlift will be lodged at the Hampton Inn, Prattville.

Airlift Schedule

Aurora Airlift
UTA pick-up schedule Friday:
Depart Maxwell at 1600 local
Arrive Aurora at 1800 local
Depart Aurora at 1830 local
Arrive Maxwell at 2030 local

UTA return schedule Sunday:
Bus departs Bldg. 1056 at 1530
Depart Maxwell at 1600 local
Arrive Aurora at 1830 local
Depart Aurora at 1845 local
Arrive Maxwell at 2100 local

Huntsville/Dobbins Airlift
UTA pick-up schedule Friday:
Depart Maxwell at 1700 local
Arrive Dobbins at 1845 local
Depart Dobbins at 1915 local
Arrive Huntsville at 1845 local
Depart Huntsville at 1915 local
Arrive Maxwell at 1945 local

UTA return schedule Sunday:
Depart Maxwell at 1600 local
Arrive Huntsville at 1645 local
Depart Huntsville at 1700 local
Arrive Dobbins at 1845 local
Depart Dobbins at 1900 local
Arrive Maxwell at 1845 local

Take Note

Congratulations to the following people:



New chief promotee Chief Master Sgt. Doug Ead

Promotions

....to Chief Master Sergeant

Douglas P. Ead, ASTS

....to Senior Master Sergeant

Jurgen Kropp, 25APS
John R. Rawls, 25APS

....to Master Sergeant

Lawrence D. Brady, MXS

....to Technical Sergeant

Mark J. Naglic, MSS
Samuel L. Smith, SFS

May Retirements

Tech Sgt. Ernest S. Wilson, 25APS

Tech. Sgt. Larry Pritchett, 25APS

Tech. Sgt. Arizo F. Gajewski, 25APS

**Police Officer**

C-130 loadmaster Staff Sgt. Galo Bascope poses in front of a police cruiser. Bascope is a recent graduate of the Atlanta Police Academy.

Where are they now?

The loadmasters and flight engineers have moved to a new location due to re-modeling.

"The squadron building that was built for ops has or will change to the OG/OSF building. We have moved and were welcomed by Linda Stanksi and John Hughes in Bldg. 848, upstairs," Chief Master Sergeant Mike Harper said in announcing the move.

Phone numbers are 3-6470/6477 for the loadmasters and 3-5924/5926 for the engineers.

Get TRICARE Info easier

The TRICARE Handbook is now interactive and available on the TRICARE Web site: <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/TricareHandbook/>. With this new functionality, users can search for information on the TRICARE benefit either by subject search, or general search. In addition, you can go right to sections in the Handbook using the interactive Table of Contents (TOC), as well as print out the online version in its entirety. The online version will be updated in real time, as changes occur.

Thrift Savings Plan News

The TSP is a retirement savings plan both for civilians who are employed by the United States Government and for members of the uniformed services. Unlike participation in the uniformed services retirement system, participation in the TSP is optional. To participate in the

**A Salute to the fallen**

908AES First Sergeant Senior Master Sgt. Christa Davis (end of first row) participates in a wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery March 19. Davis was attending a legislative course at the Pentagon when chosen to lay the wreath. Similar acts of tribute will occur nationwide this month as the military services provide musical, ceremonial and program support for national, regional and local Memorial Day events. Memorial Day this year falls on May 26.

TSP, you must sign up with your service.

- Open season dates — The next open season is April 15 through June 30. To enroll or change your contribution amount, you must file a contribution election with your agency or service. Use the TSP Election Form — TSP-1 if you are a civilian employee or TSP-U-1 if you are a member of the uniformed services — or, if your agency or service requires it, use the appropriate automated system, such as Employee Express, PostEASE, or MyPay. Check with your agency or service TSP representative if you have questions about the required procedure for filing your contribution election.

- Address reminder — The TSP participant statements will be mailed in May. If your TSP address is not correct, you will not receive your statement. To report a change of address or an address correction, contact your agency or service.

- Catch-up contributions — The President signed legislation (P.L. 107-304) on November 27, 2002, authorizing a program of "catch-up" contributions for TSP participants who are age 50 and over and who are already contributing the maximum they can to the TSP without exceeding the \$12,000 IRS limit. The maximum allowable amount for catch-up contributions for 2003 is \$2,000. Eligible participants will be able to elect catch-up contributions in July 2003, or any time thereafter. Elections made in July will be effective in August. This schedule permits employing agencies to make required changes to their personnel and payroll systems before catch-up contributions can go into effect.

Wing members wanting to enroll in TSP must complete a TSP election form and submit it through the Reserve pay section at Ext. 3-6722.

Enrollment forms are available for download on the TSP Web site, <http://www.tsp.gov>, or can be obtained at Reserve pay.

Reservists can find more informa-

tion on the TSP Web site or at the Air Force Personnel Center TSP site at http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm

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To the Family of: